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William Wheeler Senior Executive With the CIA

William M. Wheeler Jr., 52, a senior executive with the Central Intelligence Agency, died Sunday at Georgetown University Hospital of a heart ailment.

Born in Buffalo, N. Y., Wheeler was a 1935 graduate of Yale and received his law degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 1938.

He worked for the Federal Bureau of Investigation until 1944, when he transferred to the Department of War. He transferred to the State Department's Foreign Service in 1954.

Following service in Brazil, Portugal and Spain, he went to the CIA in 1960.

He leaves his wife Janet, whom he married in 1948, and two daughters, Susan and Barbara, all of the home at 6804 Algonquin Ave., Bethesda, and three sisters, Mrs. Frederick H. McCrea of St. Helena, Calif. and Priscilla and Mary Wheeler of Oakland, Calif.

Services will be private.

The family requests that expressions of sympathy be made in the form of contributions to the department of cardiology, Georgetown University Medical Center, in care of Dr. Charles A. Hufnagel.